

Response to Office Action
Dated January 29, 2003


Appln. No. 09/674,688

- 3 -


June 30, 2003

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph at page 8, line 16, with the following rewritten paragraph:

 - Thus module 10 is formed with circumferential beads 16 and 17; and module 20 with circumferential beads 26 and 27. The beads may be connected by longitudinally extending beads 126. Beads 16 and 26 are formed at ends 13 and 23 of modules 10 and 20. Beads 16, 17, 26 and 27, shown of V shape but other shapes are not excluded, strengthen the module and may act as water seals, preventing water ingress by capillary action. ~~Beads 17 co-operate and engage with complementary portions of beads 27 to allow at least partial locking together of the modules 10 and 20 as suggested by Figures 1b and 2. These beads may have a further function as described below.~~ In the embodiment shown, the ~~portion 16a of bead 16,~~ bead 126 formed on overlapping portion 18a of cladding layer 18 of module 10, is generally V shaped presenting on the inner face 18b of overlapping portion 18a a V shaped channel which accommodates the complementary inverted V shaped bead ~~26~~ 125 of module 20. Accommodation may involve an interference fit to achieve fastening but other connection means could be adopted. As shown in Figure 3, the connection of modules 10 and 20 may be made more secure by spot welding or riveting. Water sealing agents or tape may also be employed for water-tight sealing. -

Please replace the paragraph at page 9, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

 - Modules 10 and 20 are designed such that the cladding semi-cylinders are of greater length than the insulation semi-cylinders. Thus at ends 11 and 21 of the modules 10 and 20 the cladding and insulation cylinders are co-terminous. At the ends 13 and 23, the cladding semi-cylinder extends past

Response to Office Action
Dated January 29, 2003

Appln. No. 09/674,688

- 4 -

June 30, 2003

the end of the insulation semi-cylinder forming connection portions 19 and 29. These connection portions 19 and 29 are intended to overlap one end of adjacent insulation modules to be fastened thereto, as shown in Figure 3, in the manner typical of connection of pipes in the plumbing art. Beads 16 and 26 assist the fastening, in much the same manner as described above, with complementary beads on adjacent modules. Bead 126 may similarly co-operate with a corresponding longitudinal bead 125 and be made water-tight. Welding or riveting may be employed, particularly with the circumferential beads 16, 17, 26 and 27, to complete the job by forming a substantially continuous and complete insulation layer along the length of pipe or along the surface of a component to be insulated when the adjacent modules are correctly engaged. Fastening could also be achieved using screws or by strapping of the modules together by metal bands. The fastening is such as to achieve a water-tight seal. Joints may be taped with water-proof tape for this purpose or sealants, such as silicone sealants, may be employed.--

Handwritten initials: CJ, CM

Please replace the paragraph at page 9, line 20, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Referring to Figures 1 to 3, and considering the modules 10 and 20 that have been described, the overlapping end portion of each module is marked 110 and 120 respectively. The connection portions 19 and 29 of adjacent modules 600 and 620 are of substantially the same length as the end portions 110 and 120 which are terminated at one end by beads 17 and 27. Connection portions 19 and 29 are intended to be slid over the end portions 110 and 120 of adjacent modules, for example, 500 and 600, 10 and 20, until prevented from further movement by beads 17 and 27. Thus beads 17 and 27 act as gauges during assembly showing that adjacent modules have been correctly secured together, the final fastening being made by

Response to Office Action
Dated January 29, 2003

Appln. No. 09/674,688

- 5 -

June 30, 2003

EE
Cont
riveting or spot welding or otherwise using water sealing agents and tape as appropriate. At this point, the insulation layers of the adjacent modules 10, 20, ~~and 500~~ 600 and 620 come into contact along their contacting surfaces 14d, secured if desired, forming a substantially continuous and complete insulation layer along the length of the pipe. Gaps and breaks in the insulation are most advantageously to be avoided. }-
